



SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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World Court and Darfur atrocities

- Later today, the International Criminal Court's (ICC) chief prosecutor, Luis Moreno-Ocampo, will name the first suspects accused of committing war crimes in Sudan's Darfur region. Ocampo is expected to submit evidence to the ICC judges that will pave the way for arrest warrants or summonses. (*Al-Rai Al-Aam*)

- The head of the Department of International Law at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), Siraj Al-Din Hamid, stated that the Government has fully cooperated with the ICC investigations. He further added that the findings of Ocampo will be submitted to the ICC judges which will give the Government the opportunity to counter these accusations. Meanwhile, Minister of State at the MFA Al-Samani Al-Waseela reiterated the Government's rejection of any handover of Sudanese suspects to the ICC. Al-Waseela argued that the ICC usually intervenes when the national judiciary system in a country fails to bring suspects to trial. "This is not the case in Sudan," he added. The ruling National Congress Party will reportedly stage protests and mobilize campaigns against the ICC. (*Al-Sahafa*)

US-Sudan Relations

- Minister of Defense Abdel Raheem Mohamed Hussein accused the U.S. yesterday of targeting Sudan and Iran "as part of its plan to reshape the Middle East to the benefit of Israel, its strategic ally." The Defense Minister further accused the U.S. of trying to undermine Sudan's and Iran's sovereignty. He claimed the U.S. is accusing Sudan and Iran of human rights violations, but that this is a "pretext" for controlling important sources of energy in the region. (*Al-Sahafa*)

Darfur

- Speaking in Ethiopia, President Al-Bashir reiterated his rejection of the UN Security Council Resolution 1706 that calls for the deployment of a UN peacekeeping force. "Resolution 1706 of the UN Security Council actually confirmed our suspicion because the content of the resolution places Sudan under international trusteeship of the United Nations." (*Al-Wihda*)

- Reports from the city of Kas in South Darfur say that clashes have resumed between Al-Tarjam and Al-Rizeigat tribes yesterday, resulting in the death of 38 civilians. (*Al-Sudani*)

Miscellaneous

- The New Southern Front denied press reports that Foreign Minister Lam Akol is supporting their movement. The movement announced that it is only a student organization that raises funds from members. Yesterday, there were press reports claiming that First Vice President Salva Kiir had ordered the creation of a committee to investigate allegations that Lam Akol had supported an anti-Sudan People's Liberation Movement organization. (*Al-Sahafa*)

- Minister of Foreign Affairs Lam Akol stated yesterday that the GOSS (Government of South Sudan) has no right to sign security and military agreements with neighboring countries. (*Al-Ayaam*)

- Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is expected to arrive in Khartoum tomorrow. Iran and Sudan will sign a series of bilateral commercial and agricultural agreements. (*Al-Sharie Al-Siyasi*)

The Sudan Morning News is compiled as a service by the Public Affairs Section, U.S. Embassy, Khartoum, Sudan. It presents a partial survey of the current Sudanese press and international reporting about Sudan. Material reported here does not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Government.